

Minutes
Initiation Work Group, HSCRC
Friday, Jan 27, 2006
1pm-2pm
Room 100, 4160 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215

IWG Members Present: Dr. Trudy Hall, Chair and HSCRC Commissioner; Dr. Maulik Joshi, Delmarva Foundation; Ms. Barbara Epke, VP, Lifebridge Health; Dr. Linda Hickman, Chester River Hospital Center; Dr. Kathryn Montgomery, University of Maryland School of Nursing, Mr. Joseph Smith, Medstar – Union Memorial Hospital; Dr. Vahé Kazandjian, Dr. Nikolas Matthes, Mr. Frank Pipesh, Ms. Nicole Silverman and Ms. Karol Wicker, Center for Performance Sciences; HSCRC Staff: Mr. Robert Murray, Mr. Steve Ports and Ms. Marva West Tan. **On conference call:** Ms. Marybeth Farquhar, AHRQ; Dr. Charles Reuland, Johns Hopkins Medicine; Ms. Sylvia Daniels, University of Maryland Medical Center, Ms. Barbara Hirsch, Kaiser Foundation, Ms. Joanne Koterwas, St. Mary's Hospital.

Interested Parties Present: Mr. Don Hillier, former Commission Chairman, Ms. Katherine Hax, Kaiser Permanente; Ms. Ing-Jye Cheng; MHA; Ms. Charlotte Thompson, HSCRC; Ms. Kristin Geissler, Mercy Medical Center; Ms. Nancy Svehla, Center for Health Program Development and Management, University of Maryland, Baltimore County; Ms. Susan Nieto, St. Agnes Hospital; Ms. Mary Mussman, DHMH; Ms. Carol Christmyer, MHCC, Ms. Grace Zaczek, DHMH.

1. Welcome and Approval of Minutes- Dr. Hall welcomed the Work Group and attendees on conference call introduced themselves. The minutes from the Jan 17, 2006 meeting were approved with one correction. Ms. Sylvia Daniels rather than Ms. Lekisha Daniel attended the last meeting by conference call.
2. Expanded Table of Sample Measures Document- Dr. Vahé Kazandjian, CEO, Center for Performance Sciences (CPS), introduced the Center's expanded Table of sample measures which was distributed at the meeting and Dr. Matthes elucidated several characteristics or information about each measure which were not included on the original Discussion Document table. (Refer to the Table for content.) He noted that calculations regarding volume data and improvement opportunity had been added for many of the clinical measures. Dr. Kazandjian then asked the group for their reaction to the expanded table information. He noted that most of the measures dealt with effectiveness and asked whether some measures regarding staffing or structure should be added even if there is not the same level of evidence-based rigor in these measures. He also noted that the question of how to prioritize measures needs to be considered with volume, potential impact and frequency of event being one way to prioritize. Dr. Kazandjian noted that the prevalence of occurrences related to these measures were high enough to make the suggested measures candidates for the pilot.
Ms. Epke asked what were the goals of the meeting today? Dr. Kazandjian noted due to the short meeting held to keep the momentum up after the canceled December meeting, that the goal was mainly to present the expanded Table and to collect comments for further discussion at the February meeting. He asked that additional comments be sent to Ms. Tan within the next week if possible and Ms. Tan will compile them for review by the Center for Performance Sciences. Ms. Epke noted that HSCRC needs to coordinate with MHCC regarding their proposed changes to the report card for the future and that testing is needed for any measures prior to use for financial outcomes. She also noted that she thought the table in the Discussion Document presented examples not the indicators. Mr. Ports noted that there is ongoing coordination with MHCC and that Ms. Barclay is a member of the Work Group and liaison with MHCC. Dr. Kazandjian noted that the comments that CPS has received to date were mainly on the proposed example measures and very few comments were received suggesting other measures. Dr. Joshi said that he would support inclusion of the readmission and mortality measures although outcome data related to these measures may be more

difficult to interpret. He also suggested that in place of the “ICU staffing with intensivists” measure that perhaps measures related to the Ventilator-related Pneumonia and Prevention of Blood Stream Infections initiatives of the Maryland Patient Safety Center may be appropriate as data are being collected now and the process measures do not drive costs up. Dr. Hall said that she would like to see data on the number of hospitals in the State with an intensive care unit. Dr. Matthes said that he would speak with Dr. Morlock regarding her suggestions about the use of other HCUPS measures.

Mr. Ports asked about the usefulness of including those measures where there is already very high compliance in Maryland, such as aspirin on arrival for AMI. Dr. Kazandjian noted that a composite score will be developed so it might be important to look at measures with high compliance and what impact they had on the composite score. He also noted that an average of 93% compliance meant that there were hospitals performing both above and below 93%. The clinical and mathematical reasons for looking at certain performance measures could differ. Dr. Matthes noted that there could be variability in difficulty in implementing certain measures, for example, providing instruction on smoking cessation may be more difficult to accomplish than aspirin on arrival in AMI. Discussion was ended due to time constraints.

3. Additional Comments – Dr. Kazandjian requested that Work Group members provide other input on the measures, attributes of measures and/or other potential measures to be considered to Ms. Tan as soon as possible.
4. Adjournment- The next meeting date was confirmed with a two hour meeting planned and Dr. Hall adjourned the meeting.

Next Meeting- The next meeting of the Initiation Work Group will be **Monday, February 27, from 9-11 am at HSCRC, 4160 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21215 in Meeting Room 100.**